

Message Text

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SUBJ: ENGLISH LANGUAGE BANGKOK POST, IN EDITORIAL ENTITLED "CARTER
MAKES A MOVE", WELCOMES US PARTICIPATION IN ZAIRE AIRLIFT AND SEES
IT AS A SIGN THAT US "...IS GETTING BACK INTO STRIDE..." AND THAT
THIS IS "...CLEAR WARNING TO RUSSIA THAT THE AMERICANS WILL
NOT TOLERATE THE SPREAD OF SOVIET IMPERIALISM."

2. HERewith FULL TEXT: THE UNITED STATES' COLLABORATION WITH
THE FRENCH TO MOUNT AN AIRLIFT OF MOROCCAN SOLDIERS INTO
ZAIRE DEMONSTRATED TO THE WORLD THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION
IS NOT SITTING IDLY BY WHILE THE SOVIETS AND THEIR CUBAN ALLIES
ARE CARRYING OUT IMPERIALISTIC ACTS IN AFRICA. THIS IS A FAR
CRY FROM THE TIME WHEN MR. ANDREW YOUNG, THE US AMBASSADOR TO
THE UNITED NATIONS, DESCRIBED THE CUBANS AS A "STABILISING
FORCE" IN AFRICA.

3. FOR THE FIRST TIME THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAS EMBARKED
WITHOUT PRELIMINARY AND PUBLIC ANTAGONISING ON AN IMPORTANT
INTERNATIONAL ACTION. THIS INDICATES THAT AFTER A FEW FALTERING
STEPS, THE US IS GETTING BACK INTO STRIDE. THE INITIATIVE IN
AFRICA PROVES THAT THE CRITICISM THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD NO FOREIGN
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POLICY IS NO LONGER TRUE.

4. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MEASURE IS NOT LIMITED TO THE ZAIRE
SITUATION BUT IS CLEAR WARNING TO RUSSIA THAT THE AMERICANS WILL
NOT TOLERATE THE SPREAD OF SOVIET IMPERIALISM. IN MOUNTING THE
AIRLIFT, PRESIDENT CARTER IS ALSO SIGNALLING TO THE OTHER MEMBERS

OF NATO HIS BELIEF THAT THE WESTERN ALLIANCE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO WORK OUT A MORE ACTIVE AND CO-ORDINATED RESPONSE TO RUSSIAN SUBVERSION IN AFRICA. UP TO NOW THE RUSSIANS HAVE BEEN MAKING CONSIDERABLE ADVANCES IN THEIR DESIGNS ON AFRICA, AND ALL THIS WAS DUE IN NO SMALL WAY TO THE KREMLIN'S BELIEF THAT THE US GOVERNMENT HAS WITHDRAWN FROM ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AND THAT IF THE US GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE TO INTERVENE THE CONGRESS WOULD STOP IT FROM DOING SO. THE SOVIET LEADERS HAVE APPARENTLY MISCALCULATED THIS CONCEPT.

4. AFTER ITS HUMILIATING DEFEAT IN VIETNAM, THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN RELUCTANT TO COMMIT ITSELF ABROAD BUT IT HAS NOW SEEN THE DANGERS OF SOVIET EXPANSIONISM NOT ONLY TO AFRICA BUT THE OTHER PLACES. IT REALISES THAT IT CANNOT ALLOW THIS TREND TO CONTINUE WITHOUT EVENTUALLY ENDANGERING ITS SECURITY.

6. IT WILL STILL BE A LONG TIME BEFORE THE UNITED STATES WILL SEND ITS BOYS ABROAD TO FIGHT IN FOREIGN WARS, AND THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE WILL WANT TO BE ABSOLUTELY SURE THAT IF ANY FORCES ARE DISPATCHED OVERSEAS, IT MUST FIRST BE ESTABLISHED THAT THE STEP IS BEING TAKEN IN THEIR OWN COUNTRY'S OWN REALLY VITAL INTEREST. ALTHOUGH THE CONTRIBUTION IN ZAIRE IS SLIGHT, THE FEW PLANES THAT ARE SENT CONSTITUTE A REASSERTION OF AMERICAN PRESIDENTIAL WILL ON THE WORLD SCENE. IT IS WELCOMED BECAUSE THE UNITED STATES IS THE ONLY MAJOR POWER WHICH CAN DO ANYTHING TO HALT THE SOVIET IMPERIALISTIC DRIVE. END TEXT.

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